

Colonial Update

64 Holden Street • Shrewsbury, MA • 01545

December 2005



*Mission Statement:
The Shrewsbury High School
community provides challeng-
ing, diverse learning oppor-
tunities; promotes creativ-
ity and independent thinking;
and empowers students to
become capable, caring, ac-
tive contributors to the world
in which they live.*

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Offerings from the Shrewsbury Alumni As- sociation

Deadline for the next issue
of
Colonial Update is
January 26, 2006

for submissions, send email
to
khutt@shrewsbury.k12.
ma.us

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In Eli Newberger's book, The Men They Will Become: The Nature and Nurture of Male Character (1999, Perseus Publishing), he concludes that we must accept that young people are imperfect, but we must strive to provide them opportunities to push themselves to grow and learn from their successes and mistakes.

Recently several members of the Shrewsbury community met to discuss issues and concerns affecting adolescents. The forum, entitled "Building Respect and Empowering Youth" provided dozens of parent leaders, public and private school educators, clergy, state and local government representatives, students, coaches, scouting officials, and representatives of the police, medical, business, law, and judicial professions the opportunity to share candid reflections and ideas about Shrewsbury's young adults.

Several important issues were raised at the forum, including parental awareness, involvement, and influence; risky adolescent behavior; and the dearth of leadership and commitment among some of our young people. Participants were asked to take what they learned back to their organizations so that, in turn, each organization can refocus its efforts to help build respect and empower young people. The discussion was powerful and offered an extraordinary opportunity for community leaders to connect and collaborate.

Participants expressed deep concern about risky teen behavior, including alcohol and drug use and reckless driving practices which have resulted in several serious injuries and multiple deaths in Central Massachusetts. Unsupervised house parties, binge drinking, and the prevalence of drugs and stimulants have kept law enforcement busy. The police chief, Wayne Sampson, argued that some parents ignore the reality of the increased availability and abuse of alcohol and other drugs among middle and high school-aged adolescents.

Government, medical, and police officials cited recent tragedies as evidence that teens must be educated about the use of seatbelts and safer driving habits as they take to the roads. Some forum participants expressed frustration at the number of junior operators who routinely drive their friends, often with parent approval, to and from school and social events. This is illegal behavior that has resulted in anxious moments and near misses. Add alcohol to the mix, participants warned, and there exists a deadly combination of teen bravado, excessive speed, and a weighty vehicle careening out of control on an icy Shrewsbury road.

It was extremely compelling to hear community leaders, especially coaches and school principals talk about the need for additional leadership among young people. Some participants perceive that there simply are not enough strong leaders, particularly among boys, in our schools, on the ball fields, in our churches, or in the community. Some felt that an overemphasis on organized sports is distracting and prevents boys from reaching their full academic or social potential. Others, however, believe that youth and interscholastic sports encourage youth leadership and healthy behavior. Both perspectives are valid.

The high school administration has noticed there does exist a dearth of male leadership and service within the Shrewsbury High School community that is troublesome. For whatever reason, young men simply have not pursued high school leadership roles and service opportunities with the same confidence, enthusiasm, and pride as young women have. In his book, Newberger writes about boys

Parent Forum News

From the Parent Forum Coordinators

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to fill out the surveys at the Open House. The response was tremendous! We were able to plan meeting topics and add a great many volunteers to our rosters. Each Wednesday in December we provide "Holiday Treats" for the teachers, so if you volunteered to bake you most likely will be called.

At the beginning of the school year a barbeque was held for the teachers. We would like to thank **Stop and Shop** for their very generous donation of hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, and cheese, and **Price Chopper** and **Shaw's** for their donations to the event as well. We would like to extend a special thank you to **Joanne and Pete Hubbard** for donating the use of the grill, the charcoal, and to Pete for grilling all the food for us.

The support of the parents at Shrewsbury High School certainly helps to make it such a special place.

Forum Meetings:

Everyone is welcome to attend Parent Forum meetings usually held in the commons. These meetings are part open forum and part information and/or discussion sessions.

Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

To Parents... ..From Parents: A Resource Guide for the Four Years of High School

Available for a donation of \$5.00 This handbook contains invaluable information on the workings of Shrewsbury High School including a year by year profile, information on academic and athletic services (with directions to away fields) as well as driving policies and volunteer opportunities plus much more. Available in the school main office.

Meetings (continued):

Thursday, Jan. 12, 2006 :

Managing Homework and Testing

Thursday, Mar. 9, 2006:

Freshman and Sophomore College Night

Tuesday, April 11, 2006:

Making Positive Choices, Raising Respectful Teenagers and Substance Abuse

On November 3 our Director of Instructional Technology, Bob Cornacchioli, presented information on on-line diary sites (weblogs). Many students do not realize they are posting personal information for anyone to see on the world wide web. Check out www.xanga.com and www.myspace.com to see one way our high school students are communicating.

Principal Coffees:

For those of you not able to make the evening meetings, there are the principal coffees from 7:45 – 8:45 am. Please drop in anytime.

Wednesday	December 14
Friday	January 20
Wednesday	February 15
Wednesday	March 22
Thursday	April 13
Friday	May 1

Note Cards

Keep an eye out for student designed Shrewsbury High School note cards. A great idea for graduation thank you notes.

List Serv

If you haven't already, please sign up for the High School List Serv. Just go to the High School website at <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/SHS/index.asp> and click on the blue mailbox. You will receive pertinent, but infrequent, updates from our principal, Dr. Daniel Gutekanst.

Warmly,	
Nancy Donoghue	842-4557
Lisa Easson	842-7133
Mindy Hebert	845-1608
Joanne Hubbard	842-4895
Genevieve Labbe	842-5861
Penny McLaren	842-0143
Laurie Neumann	842-7718
Deborah Peeples	842-8693
Regina Paltos	842-7818
Vickie Pugliese	842-7647
Chris Rybacki	842-0857
Deborah Seto	845-8543
Sara Tiernan	842-7671
Kathleen Thompson	842-1827
Marianne Upton	842-4175

Parent Workshop Series

The Home-School Connection

Attend a Free Parent Workshop Sponsored by Your PTO! You are invited to attend these **FREE** PTO Sponsored Workshops. They are open to any Shrewsbury parent. If possible, please RSVP to Kris Cobb, Program Coordinator through e-mail kcobb@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us or voice mail 508-841-8300 x1710. Please consider attending these and future offerings! All workshops are from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Stress Workshop:
Tues, Dec 6th the High School Presentation Room
Study Skills, Test Taking & Organizational Skill:
Wed, Jan 11 in the Coolidge Cafeteria
How to Help Motivate the Unmotivated Child:
Th, Jan 26 in the Oak Middle Media Center
"Just Say Know" Drug Awareness: Wed, Feb 8 in the Oak Middle Media Center
Eating Disorders:
Th, Mar 2 in the High School Presentation Room
Divorce and Blended Family Issues
Wed, Mar 29 in the Oak Middle Media Center
Learning Styles
Wed, Apr 5 in the Beal School Gymnasium

(see the workshop flyer included in this newsletter)

Attention Parents of Juniors! Class of 2007

It's time to start thinking about the **Junior After Prom Party!** There will be an organizational meeting on

December 14 at 7:00 pm in the Shrewsbury High School Commons.

Any parent who is interested in helping with the planning, organizing, fundraising, and generating of party ideas and activities is encouraged to attend. The more parents who are willing to help and support this endeavor, the more successful the party will be.

This party offers a fun and safe environment during the hours after the prom, and is designed to keep our students alcohol and drug free on this special evening.

If you have any questions, or would like to help but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Ruth Hullinger at 508-845-2884 or email her at tghullin@aol.com. Look for additional information and meeting dates in future issues of the Colonial Update.

We hope to see many of you on **December 14, 7:00 pm!**

From the Class of 2009 Entertainment Books!!!

The Class of 2009 is still in the process of collecting Entertainment Books and/or the \$25 for each book for our **one** fundraiser this year. If your son or daughter still has a book or money out, please have them return them as soon as possible to Mrs. Arpin in room A214. All materials were due by Friday, December 2, 2005.

If anyone wants to buy a book, retail value \$30, we are selling them for \$25 for this area. Great savings include a free rental and popcorn from Blockbuster (a \$7 value), buy one-entree-get-one-free at some wonderful restaurants, and discounts at local BK's, etc. Contact an advisor at 508-841-8854. Thank you for your support!

Take a LOOK.... News from the Visual Arts Department

The Main Street Galleries at Shrewsbury High School are featuring works by a variety of courses. New this year is Calligraphy, the art of beautiful writing.. Also features is the current work of the Advanced Placement and Studio Honors III students who are working on concentrations – a series of works based on a single theme or media. The Third Floor Galleries are now showing a n eclectic mix of art work from digital imaging, drawing and painting as well as work from the foundations classes. On exhibit on the Second Floor Display Space are three dimensional works based on the figure in motion from students in Mr. Stearns classes.

Boston Globe – Scholastic Art Competition

Shrewsbury High School will be sending 19 art works to the prestigious Scholastic Art Competition sponsored by the Boston Globe. This is the premier competition for middle and high school art students in the United States. There are regional competitions that award Gold and silver keys as well as honorable mentions. Gold and silver key work is on display at the State Transportation Building in Boston fro January 24 through February 18th. Gold key work is then sent on to New York for the national judging. Each school in the commonwealth is eligible to send works, the number based on the school population. Winners will be announced at the end of January and a special reception is given in Early February. Seniors may send in portfolios for awards as well.

National Art Honor Society News

Members of the National Art Honor Society have been extremely productive year. Thus far, the society has participated in nine activities for the school, community and local businesses within the Worcester County area. All NAHS members are required to participate in at least six service projects throughout the year. Clearly they have exceeded that and will continue to add to the list throughout the school year. At the Annual Arts Festival in May 2006, new members of the NAHS who have serviced this year will be formally inducted into the chapter.

Service projects include-

- Pinwheels for Peace
- Spirit of Shrewsbury
- Family Fun Day – Coolidge School
- Comfort and Joy
- Pumpkin Carving – The EcoTarium in Worcester
- Great American Smoke-Out – Poster Contest
- Logo Design contest – Local business
- “Mix it up” Day – SHS Black History Club
- Large check presented to the Red Cross-SHS Hurricane Disaster Fund

Currently – Members are working to complete a Mural in collaboration with Mrs. O’Leary of the Social Studies department.

In addition to all services rendered this year, the NAHS is sponsoring a fundraiser: Decorated Boxwood Trees for the Holiday season. 12 – 16 trees will be decorated by the students and raffled off on Dec. 14th for a delivery/pick-up date immediately following. Raffle tickets are \$2 and available from NAHS students and from the advisor, Mrs. Pamela LeBlanc.

Donatons to the Department: can be left at the main office or in room M 316. We thank you in advance.

- Still life objects – interesting vases, glasses, bottles, silk flowers, etc.
- 35 mm manual cameras for the photography classes. Point and shoot 35mm camera’s are also accepted.
- Clean yogurt cups and baby food jars.

Shrewsbury High School

Dates to remember

Thu, Dec 8	Musical Dance Auditions	6:00pm to 9:00pm
Thu, Dec 8	Financial Aid Night - Snow Date	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Sun, Dec 11	Concert	3:00pm to 5:30pm
Mon, Dec 12	Musical Auditions	6:00pm to 9:30pm
Tue, Dec 13	Musical Auditions	2:30pm to 5:30pm
Wed, Dec 14	Principal's Coffee	7:45am to 8:45am
Wed, Dec 14	Holiday Concert	7:30pm
Wed, Dec 14	Jr After Prom Meeting	7:00pm to 8:00pm
Thu, Dec 15	Concert/Audition Snow Date	7:30pm
Fri, Dec 16	Musical Audition Call Backs	2:30pm to 4:30pm
Sat, Dec 17	Speech and Debate Tournament	
Tue, Dec 20	Holiday Concert	7:30pm
Wed, Dec 21	Holiday Concert - Snow Date	7:30pm
Mon, Dec 26	December Vacation starts	
Mon, Jan 2	Last day of December Vacation	
Tue, Jan 3	School starts	
Sat, Jan 7	Speech and Debate Tournament	
Sat, Jan 7	Winter Ball	7:00pm to 11:00pm
Thu, Jan 12	Parent Forum	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Mon, Jan 16	Martin Luther King Day - NO SCHOOL	
Tue, Jan 17	Professional Development Day - NO SCHOOL	
Fri, Jan 20	Principal's Coffee	7:45am to 8:45am
Thu, Jan 26	2nd quarter/ 1st semester ends	
Sat, Jan 28	Winter Ball - snow date	

Mark Your Calendars!

Parent Volunteers Needed in the Media Center

Can you give two or three hours a week to help in the school media center shelving books and assisting with other library management tasks? No specific time commitment is necessary. Please call Carolann Costello at 841-8821 to volunteer your services.

Notes



From the Shrewsbury Schools Music Association (SSMA)

"Ah, music. A magic beyond all we do here!" - J. K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Masterpieces from our Kitchen --

Recipes of Note

Cookbook Fundraiser



High School music students, their faculty, families and friends have teamed with the SSMA to publish an attractive keepsake cookbook containing over 200 well-loved recipes, including appetizers, soups, salads, main dishes, desserts, and more. Recipes include the contributor's name, enabling you to find recipes submitted by family and friends.

Over 70% of the proceeds from each cookbook will be used to fund future school music programs town-wide. The SSMA helps pay for concert dress, enrichment activities, trips, awards, materials, scholarships, and more in all of the town schools.

Cookbooks are \$10.00 each. They may be purchased from any member of the SSMA, from SHS music students, and at the Holiday Concerts at the High School on December 14th and 21st.

For more information, or to reserve a copy, please contact
Andrea Sanders at 508-842-6255 or als.chef@att.net.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The 2006 Central District Senior High School Concert will be held on January 14 at Mechanics Hall in Worcester. The concert, presented by the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, features the best young musicians from 59 schools in Central Massachusetts. The following SHS students were recently accepted by audition to participate in the concert. Those with an asterisk will also audition for the All State Festival in January.

Jazz Band:

*Ariel Wexler, *Megan Roy

Band:

Hyelyn Jeon, *Ashley Bain, *Ruby Lee, *Caitlyn Cavanaugh, *Laura LeBlanc, Yoel Wexler, Edward Smongeski

Orchestra:

Anne Rocheleau, Lauren Bailey, *Adrian Sealy, *Alan Tran, *Nicole Peltier, Laura Friedman, *Chang Xu, *Victoria Yam, *Alice Tran, *Kazumi Shimokawa, Elaine Xie, Alex Chan, (*Carolyn Browning- All State audition only)

Chorus:

*Robino Africa, Dan Barbash, *Cara Brindisi, *Samantha Chadwick, *Joe D'Angelo Lajoie, Julia Dobner-Pereira, Daniel Freeman, Kelsey Gibbs, *Teresa Kuruvilla, *Lisa Millette, Jacob Peebles, Erica Sanders, *Ryan Sheehan, *Stephen Spillman

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 8	Musical dance auditions
Dec. 12 & 13	Musical auditions
Dec. 14	Holiday Concert, 7:30PM—Band, Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble (Concert/audition snow date—Dec. 15)
Dec. 20	Holiday Concert, 7:30PM—Orchestra, A Cappella Choir, Jazz Band, Freshman Girls Choir (Snow date—Dec. 21)
Jan. 3	SSMA meeting, 7:15PM
Jan. 11 & 13	Central District rehearsals
Jan. 14	Central District Concert (Mechanics Hall)
Jan. 28	All-State auditions, Time TBA
Feb. 4	Central District Junior High auditions
Feb. 7	SSMA meeting, 7:15PM
Mar. 7	Mid-Winter Concert, 7:30PM—Band, Orchestra (Snow date—Mar. 8)

WRAPPING GIFTS AT BORDERS BOOKS



Thank you to everyone who has signed up for a shift at our gift-wrapping fundraiser at Borders Books. If anyone else would like to sign up, or be put on the "cancellation list" (I will try you if someone cancels their shift), please contact Marsha Cramer at 508-842-5921 or Marsha44G@aol.com.

SHOP & SWAP

Do you have any music-related items you would like to sell? Are you looking for any to buy? Email the information to Janet Pope (jpoppe@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us) to include it in the next newsletter.

* Like-new Casio Privia PX-100 digital **keyboard**. Built-in speakers, 88 keys with weighted hammer action, great sound quality. Used only a few times. Asking \$450.00. Contact John at johnnymac14xx@yahoo.com.

* Brand new **violin** for sale - Full size 2005 Tanglewood Strings. Includes new case, bow, sponge shoulder pad and rosin. Please call 508-754-4966.

* Piccolo for sale - **Armstrong Model #204. Silver Plated. Excellent quality and condition. Willing to negotiate price. Call 508-842-7560.**

Spring Musical is Announced

"Beauty and the Beast" has been chosen as this year's musical. Mark your calendar so you don't miss it...March 22-26, 2006.

Work on costumes for the show will begin soon. There will be plenty to do... measuring, organizing, labeling, sewing (by hand and machine), ironing. Costume donations are welcome, as well...fabrics, trims, buttons and other fasteners, coat hangers, large plastic storage bins. Please contact Martha Deering (mdeering@wellnesscorp.com or 508-831-0857) if you'd like to help out.

Contact any SSMA member for more information: President Sandra Johnson Weed (508-755-8488); Vice President Nancy Freeman; Secretary Janet Pope (jpoppe@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us); Treasurer Paul Dobner; Past President Kurt Hultgren; Board Members Joe Armenti, Marsha Cramer, Martha Deering, Karen D'Alessandro, Deborah DelDotto, Mark Freeman, Bonnie Gibbs, Dave Gorey, Joanne Hubbard, Rachel Kleiman-Wexler, Angel LeBlanc, Nancy Mahan, Tom Mahan, D'Arcy McCarthy, Dianne Millette, Andrea Pereira, Richard Pope, Andrea Sanders, Gini Snowdon, Sue Stone, Judy Waldbillig.

Collectibles are the Cat's Meow

Bring back those wonderful memories...Purchase a unique gift for your loved ones to cherish forever.

Can't think of a unique gift to give to the high school student, graduate, rower, babysitter, birthday celebrator, teacher, room mother, or an old friend? Trying to think of a gift to remind you of the school days at SHS? Want to add to your Cat's Meow collection about historical Shrewsbury? The SHS Alumni Association might have your answer...

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Money from the purchase of the Cat's Meow replicas goes toward the *Shrewsbury High School Student Grants Program*.

TO PURCHASE:

- E-mail Mary Rose (Cote) Casey at maryrosecasey@townisp.com
- Call Mary Rose (Cote) Casey at **508-755-3922** to pick up at **Shrewsbury Children's Center, 138 North Quinsigamond Ave., Shrewsbury**
- Go to: <http://www.shrewsburyalumni.org/gifts.htm> to download the Cat's Meow Order Form. You may type on your form, but you must print it out and mail it in with your check. You may type directly on the form.

Shrewsbury High School at Holden Street: \$20



The SHS colonial emblem: \$15



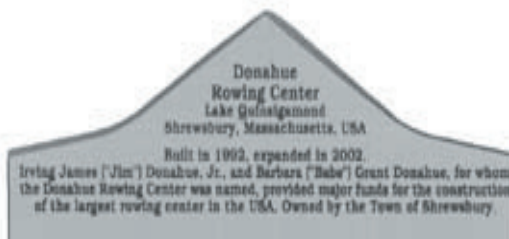
Donahue Rowing Center, Now the largest rowing center in the U.S.

\$30 signed by Jim and Babs Donahue **Now \$25**

\$25 unsigned **Now \$20**

Front:

Back:



Still puzzled about a gift for that someone special in your life or even yourself? Stay warm and fashionable in the winter by purchasing **fun fur scarves** for \$15-\$20. Blue & gold scarves are available as well as scarves for the Red Hat Society Ladies. Other colors are available to match any outfit. Buy one and support the SHS Student Grant Program at the same time.